



INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Driving Indiana's Economic Growth

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Mitchell E. Daniels, Jr., Governor
Karl B. Browning, Commissioner

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Dear Indiana School Administrators:

In 2006, the Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) launched the Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Program in Indiana. The goal of the SRTS initiative is to make bicycling and walking to school safe and routine. SRTS funding helps create an environment where children in kindergarten through eighth grade can get to and from school on bikes or on foot. Americans increasingly realize that traffic congestion, fuel consumption and air pollution near our schools, coupled with growing health and obesity concerns, make walking and biking to school a reasonable, low-cost and attractive transportation option.

INDOT administers the program that makes federal funds available on a reimbursement basis for approved activities and projects. The Department relies on an application process and advisory committee to help determine the most worthwhile projects. This letter is to inform you that INDOT will accept 2008 SRTS applications from April 1st through May 30th of this year. The INDOT SRTS Web page, <http://saferoutes.in.gov>, will provide the new 2008 application, the 2008 application guide, student and parent survey forms, directions for submitting survey data and relevant contact information.

School principals, school district officials, local transportation officials, health care and law enforcement officials, bicycle and pedestrian advocates and metropolitan planning organizations are encouraged to work together to improve bicycling and walking to school. What education, enforcement and encouragement techniques will get more children bicycling or walking to school? What improvements can be installed to make it safer for students to walk to a public or private school? What policies that discourage or prohibit children from walking or biking to school can we change? How can we partner to create a comprehensive and effective Safe Routes plan?

Did you know that approved SRTS education, enforcement, evaluation and encouragement programs costing up to \$75,000 may be 100% reimbursable? To find out more about the national Safe Routes to School Program go to: www.saferoutesinfo.org and <http://safety.fhwa.dot.gov/saferoutes/>. Please contact Michael O'Loughlin at INDOT at moloughlin@indot.in.gov or visit the INDOT SRTS Web page to find out more about the Indiana Safe Routes to School Program.

Sincerely,

Michael O'Loughlin
Safe Routes to School Program Manager
INDOT Division of Planning

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